

IN THE FIGURES

In response to the Examiner's objections to the drawings within the Office Action and pursuant to a telephone conversation between counsel for the Applicant and the Examiner, Applicant directs the Examiner's attention to the Remarks section of the Preliminary Amendment in the image file wrapper for this file on the PAIR system. Within those Remarks sections, the replacement sheet drawings, which were filed with the Preliminary Amendment have been scanned in. The replacement sheet drawings address the concerns outlined by the Examiner in the above-referenced Office Action. Applicant again respectfully submits that the earlier filed replacement sheet drawings contain no new matter.

REMARKS

With the present Amendment, claims 16-33 are pending. Claim 22 was objected to because of specified informalities. Applicants submit that such informalities have been addressed. Claims 16, 17, 20-26, 31, and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Wassenhoven, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,398,494). Claims 18, 19, and 27-30 were indicated as allowable but objected to as being dependent upon a rejected based claim. New independent claim 33 has also been added.

Claims 18 and 27 have been amended into independent form and are now in condition for allowance. Claim 19 depends from claim 18 and claims 28-30 depend from claim 27. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claims 19 and 28-30 are also in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 16;17, 20-26, and 31-33 patentable define over the art of record for at least the reasons set forth herein.

Independent claim 16 claims a disintegrator roll housing of a disintegrator apparatus of an open-end spinning apparatus. The disintegrator roll housing includes side walls forming two sides of disintegrator roll housing with a circumferential wall disposed between the side walls. The circumferential wall forms at least one side of a feed opening. An insert is positioned between the side walls and after the feed opening in a direction of rotation of a disintegrator roll disposed within the disintegrator roll housing. The insert at least partially forms a contaminant separation opening through which contaminants pass that are separated during disintegration of the fiber band. The insert acts as at least a portion of the circumferential wall between the feed

opening and the contaminant separation opening in the direction of rotation of the disintegrator roll.

Similarly, claim 20 claims an insert for use as a portion of a circumferential wall of a disintegrator roll housing. The insert includes at least one projection that at least partially forms a contaminant separation opening for which contaminants pass that are separated during disintegration of a fiber band. The insert is configured to be positionable in the disintegrator roll housing so that the insert defines at least a portion of the circumferential wall between a feed opening and the contaminant separation opening as seen from the direction of rotation of a disintegrator roll.

Also, claim 32 claims a procedure for renovating an open-end spinning apparatus having a disintegrator apparatus with a disintegrator roll housing. The procedure includes removing a segment of a circumferential wall of the disintegrator roll housing located after a feed opening and before an exit opening in a direction of rotation of a disintegrator roll disposed within the disintegrator roll housing. The removed segment has at least a portion of the circumferential wall defining a contaminant separation opening. The segment is then replaced by a replaceable insert that acts at least partially as the circumferential wall disposed between the feed opening and the contaminant separation opening as seen in the direction of rotation of the disintegrator roll, thereby redefining the contaminant separation opening.

Respectfully, the insert claimed in independent claims 16 and 20 as well as the procedure claimed in independent claim 32 patentable define the invention over the cited prior art. Specifically, Wassenhoven, et al. does not disclose such an insert and procedure.

Wassenhoven, et al. discloses an insert which may be placed in a trash discharge passage. As shown in Figure 3 of Wassenhoven, et al., the insert has flanges projecting outwardly from the surface which engage a wall of the discharge passage that is located between the insert and exit opening for the fibers being transferred to the spin box. The insert has a U-shape with walls extending toward a feed opening. The insert does not form a wall of the trash discharge passage, which is positioned closest to the feed opening of the fiber opening and fiber feeding device and, further, does not form at least a portion of a circumferential wall between the feed opening and the trash discharge passage in a direction of rotation of the opening roll. Therefore, the embodiment shown in Figure 3 of Wassenhoven, et al. does not disclose an insert acting as at least a portion of a circumferential wall between the feed opening and the trash discharge passage in the direction of rotation of the opening roll.

Additionally, none of the other embodiments shown in Wassenhoven et al. show such an insert acting as the circumferential wall in such a manner. Therefore, neither the inserts disclosed in Wassenhoven et al. nor the procedure outlined for renovating an opening device disclosed in Wassenhoven et al. anticipate claims 16, 20, and 32, respectively.

Similarly, new independent claim 33 is not anticipated by Wassenhoven, et al. New independent claim 33 claims an insert having two projections that partially form a contaminant separation opening. The two projections are disposed parallel to each other in a fork-shape so that the ends of the projections can abut against a portion of the circumferential wall that is located after the contaminant separation opening and before the exit opening in a direction of rotation of the disintegrator roll disposed within

the disintegrator roll housing.

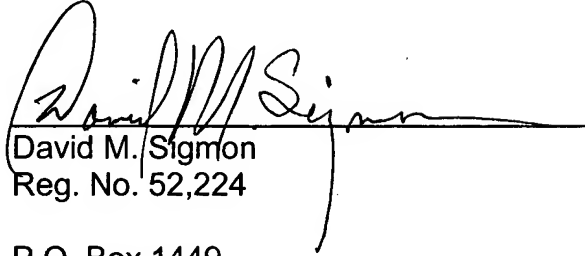
As discussed above, Wassenhoven, et al. discloses a U-shaped insert. However, the two ends that form the U of the U-shaped insert face away from the circumferential wall disposed between the trash discharge passage and the exit opening of the housing for the opening roll. So, no structure forms a fourth side to the trash discharge passage other than the end portion of the intake opening guide plate. In such an embodiment, the sides of the discharge opening and its distance from the feed opening cannot generally be controlled by inserting different inserts. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 33 patentably defines over the cited prior art.

For at least these reasons, independent claims 16, 20, 32, 33 patentably define over Wassenhoven, et al. Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 16, 20, 32, and 33 are now allowable. Since claim 17 depends from claim 16 and claims 21-26 depend from claim 20, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 17 and 21-26 are also allowable. As stated above, claims 18 and 27 have been written into independent form and are now allowable. Claim 19 depends from claim 18 and claims 28-30 depend from claim 27. Therefore, applicants respectfully submit that claims 19 and 28-30 are also allowable. Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is respectfully requested. The Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at his convenience to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David M. Sigmon", written over a horizontal line.

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